

REMARKS

The pending Office Action addresses claims 1-41, which are subject to a restriction and/or election requirement.

Amendments to the Specification and Claims

Applicants amend the specification and claims 7, 19, and 29 to correct a typographical error, and in particular to replace the term “heated sealed” with “heat sealed.” No new matter is added.

Election Requirement

The Examiner requires election of one of the following patentably distinct species:

Species A:	Figure 1
Species B:	Figure 2
Species C:	Figure 3
Species D:	Figure 4
Species E:	Figures 5A-5C
Species F:	Figure 6
Species G:	Figure 7

The Examiner submits that no claims are generic.

At the outset, Applicants traverse the Examiner’s species groupings. First, Species E should not include Figure 5B. Figure 5B does not illustrate a scaffold configuration, but rather illustrates a heat sealing apparatus. Second, Species F and G should not be considered to be independent and distinct species. Figures 6 and 7 merely illustrate surface features that can be formed on *any* of the scaffold embodiments of Figures 1-5A and 5C. Figures 6 and 7 also do not illustrate scaffolds having different structural configurations. In fact, the scaffolds shown in Figures 6 and 7 have the same structural configuration as the scaffold shown in Figure 4.

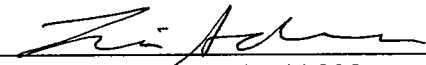
While Applicants traverse the Examiner’s species groupings, in order to comply with the election requirement Applicants elect Species A. Applicants submit that claims 1-6, 13-18, 24-28, and 34-37 are generic and read on all species. Claims 9, 10, 20, 21, 30, 31, 38, and 39 read on the elected species. Remaining claims 7, 8, 11, 12, 19, 22, 23, 29, 32, 33, 40, and 41 are thus withdrawn from consideration.

Conclusion

Claims 1-6, 9, 10, 13-18, 20, 21, 24-28, 30, 31, and 34-39 and thus subject to Examination.
The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant if such communication is deemed to expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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